IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

* BEFORE THE

NW/Corner Holabird and Crafton Aves.

MM/COTTLET HOTADITA and CTATCOL AVE

(6916 Holabird Avenue) * DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER

13th Election District

7th Councilmanic District * OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Andrew J. Brown, et ux

* Case No. 95-458-A

Petitioners

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance for that property known as 6916 Holabird Avenue, located in the vicinity of Wise Avenue in Dundalk. The Petition was filed by the owners of the property, Andrew J. and Linda L. Brown. The Petitioners seek relief from Section 409.6.B of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required five (5), or to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required 14, to be determined by the Zoning Commissioner at the hearing, and from Section 233.2.B of the B.C.Z.R. to permit a side yard setback of 0 feet in lieu of the minimum required 10 feet for a proposed two-story addition. The subject property and relief sought are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing on behalf of the Petition were Andrew and Linda Brown, property owners, James McKinney, Consultant, and Colleen Cavanaugh, Esquire, attorney for the Petitioners. There were no Protestants present.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property consists of 2,990 sq.ft., zoned B.L. and is improved with a one-story building in which the Petitioners have operated a liquor store since 1981. The Petitioners are desirous of constructing an addition to the existing building to provide badly needed storage space. Testimony indicated that

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due to the number of new beer brands which have recently come onto the market, the Petitioners are desirous of constructing a 25.2' x 20.6', two story addition to the rear of the existing building. Mr. Brown testified that a two-story addition is needed to handle the storage space necessary to stock the many different micro-brewery beers and other new brands of beer for his customers. The proposed addition will be constructed of similar materials as the existing building and will maintain the same side setbacks as provided by the existing building, which takes up the entire width of the subject property. Inasmuch as the proposed addition will be utilized for storage purposes only, I find that the Petitioners are only required to provide five (5) parking spaces, and not the 14 spaces that would be required otherwise. The Petitioners testified that there is ample parking in the area, both on Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue. Furthermore, the owner of the adjoining commercial property, William Blankenship, will allow the Petitioners to utilize his parking lot when necessary, as evidenced by his letter dated April 3, 1995. Thus, it appears that the relief requested would pose no hardship on the surrounding locale.

The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 307.1, established a two-step process for the granting of variances. That two-step process was addressed and identified by the Court of Special Appeals in the case of <u>Cromwell v. Ward</u>, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995). The opinion in that case, issued January 4, 1995 and authored by the Honorable J. Cathell, interpreted our regulations to require the applicant to establish the following:

First, the Applicant (Petitioner) must prove, and this Deputy Zoning Commissioner must find, that the "property whereon structures are to be placed (or uses conducted) is -- in and of itself-- unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties such

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

that the uniqueness and peculiarity of the subject property causes the zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon that property."

I find from the testimony and evidence presented in this case that the subject property is unique, unusual and different from properties which surround the subject site so as to cause this applicable zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon this particular parcel of land.

Having satisfied this "first step" the Applicant (Petitioner) must proceed to the "second step" of this variance process, which is to show that strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship.

The practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship guidelines that have been imposed by the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) have been thoroughly examined and discussed by the appellate courts of this State. In Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association v. Buschman, 227 Md. 243, 176 A.2d 355 (1961), the Court of Appeals considered the identical regulation to Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R.

As the Court noted: "Section 307 of the Regulations uses the two terms (practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship) in the disjunctive."

Loyola Federal, p. 358. Thus, by the use of the term "or", Section 307 offers the Petitioner an opportunity to obtain its variance upon satisfaction of either the undue hardship or practical difficulty standard.

The distinction between these standards was clarified by the Court of Special Appeals in Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28, 322 A.2d 220 (1974). Within that opinion, the Court held that the undue hardship standard applies to a petition for a use variance. The Court noted that a use variance, which permits a use on the property other than that specifically permitted in that particular



standards as set forth above and that the variance requested should be granted. I further find that the granting of this variance is in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R. and that the granting of this relief is accomplished without injury to the public health, safety or general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the variance requested should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this 200 day of August, 1995 that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 409.6.B of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required five (5) for a proposed addition to the existing building, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction:

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs



Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning



Suite 112 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-4386

August 2, 1995

Colleen Cavanaugh, Esquire
2 N. Dundalk Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21222-4265

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

NW/Corner Holabird and Crafton Aves.

(6916 Holabird Avenue)

13th Election District - 7th Councilmanic District

Andrew J. Brown, et ux - Petitioners

Case No. 95-458-A

Dear Ms. Cavanaugh:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Permits and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

cc: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21219

People's Counsel

File



Petition for Vari

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore

for the property located at

6916 Holabird Ave.

which is presently zoned

B.L.

This Petition shall be filed with the Office of Zoning Administration & Development Management.

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s) 409.6.B and 233.2.B to permit O parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces

as determinded to be required by the Zoning Commissioner at the public hearing and a Oft. side setback (for proposed building. in lieu of the of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (Indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

Desperately need more storage space in order to stay competitive due to more brands available and customer demand for more variety ie: light products and non-alcoholic beers.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore County.

		I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this (Petition
Contract P	urchaser/Lessee,	Legal Ownor(s)
		(Type of Print Name) J. BROWN JR.
(Type or P	(Irit Name)	(Type or Print Name)
		(Type or Print Name)
Signature		Signature
Address		TYPE OF PUBLISHED
Addioas		
City	State Zipcod	o Syphallure Que 14000
Attorney fo	or Petitioner	0 - 1 1
S Lype or	rins Nama	2922 Krottie Ave. 477.8328
S Gypo or	(m) (author	BALTIMORE MARYLAND 21219
		City State Zipcode
G Cargnetule	•	Name, Address and phone number or representative to be contacted M. COM MISSION EXPLOSES 1/1/93
to the co		Willey Grace Blake De.
	Phone No.	7721 TRAPOS Pel 285-1303
City	State Zipcod	a the first was the state of the same of t
		OFFICE USE ONET
	Appear M	ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING unavailable for Hearing
	on the state of t	the following dates Next Ywo Months
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95-458-A 452

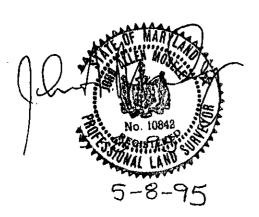
ZONING DESCRIPTION

BEGINNING at a point on the north right-of-way line of Holabird Avenue as shown on Baltimore County Bureau of Rights-of-way plat HRW 52-099 as recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Highways Liber No. 15A at Folio 194, said Point of Beginning being 50 feet west of the centerline of Crafton Avenue, a 50 foot right of way; THENCE departing said north right-of-way line

- 1. North 00°02'00" East, 122.38 feet to the south line of an alley; THENCE along said south line
- 2. South 89°58'00" East, 25.00 feet to the west right-of-way line of Crafton Avenue; THENCE along said west right-of-way line
- 3. South 00°02'00" West, 103.07 feet to a point of curvature; THENCE
- 4. 32.30 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 20 feet and a chord bearing and distance of South 46°09'03" West, 28.83 feet to a point of reverse curvature on the said north line of Holabird Avenue; THENCE along the said north line
- 5. 4.22 feet along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 1662.14 feet and a chord bearing and distance of North 87°48'17" West, 4.22 feet to the Point of Beginning and containing 2,990 square feet of land.

Being a portion of Lot 15, Block C as shown on a Plat of Subdivision entitled "Fairlawn" as recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Plat Book W.P.C. 6 at Folio 100 said property also know as 6916 Holabird Avenue located in the Twelfth Election District.

Also Being all of the Property conveyed to Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda L. Brown by deed dated November 2, 1990 as recorded in Liber 8655, Folio 385.



CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Towson, Maryland

Posted for: Vaviones	Date of Posting 1/1/25
Posted for: Vaytonco	
Petitioner: Androws Linda Bra. Location of property: 6916 Holibird Hro.	2Wx
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Location of Signs: Facing foodway on	froporty being zond
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Remarks:	
	Data of return: 1/1/95
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Number of Signs:	MICROFILMED

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111. W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204 or Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

Case: #95-458-A
(Item 452)
6916 Holabird Avenue
NWC Holabird Avenue
12th Election District
7th Coundimanic
Legal Owner(s):
Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and
Linda Lee Brown
Hearing: Tuesday,
July 18, 1995 at 11:00
a.m. in Rm. 118, Old
Courthouse.

Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 40 feet

LAWRENCE E SCHMIDT Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

NOTES: (1)Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations - Please Call 867-3353:

(2)For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Please Call 887-3391 6/359 June 29,

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

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LEGAL AD. - TOWSON



Rull' no: e Co-inty Zoning Administration & . Development Management

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Account: R-U01-6150

Number

Date 6/12/95

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Number 452

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6916 HOLABIRD AVE

TEGUSTOUSSELLEHRE EA COLL 1436006-12-95 \$295.00

Cashier Validation



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

ZONING HEARING ADVERTISING AND POSTING REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

Baltimore County zoning regulations require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property and placement of a notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County.

This office will ensure that the legal requirements for posting and advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements.

PAYMENT WILL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) Posting fees will be accessed and paid to this office at the time of filing.
- 2) Billing for legal advertising, due upon receipt, will come from and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

NON-PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING FEES WILL STAY ISSUANCE OF ZONING ORDER.

ARNOLD JABLON, DIRECTOR
For newspaper advertising:
Item No.: 452
Petitioner: Andrew J. Brown JR + Linda Lee Brown
Location: 6916 HOLABIRD AVENUE BAYO MO 21222
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
NAME: ANDREW J. BROWN, JR
ADDRESS: 2922 RITCHIE AVENUE
BALTMONE, MARYLAND 21219
PHONE NUMBER: (410) 477-8348

TO: PUTUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY
June 29, 1995 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please foward billing to:

Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue Baltimore, MD 21219 477-8328

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore
County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in
Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 95-458-A (Item 452)

6916 Holabird Avenue

NWC Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue 12th Election District - 7th Councilmanic

Legal Owner(s): Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown

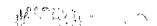
HEARING: TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 10 feet.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT
ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, PLEASE CALL 887-3391.



Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

June 22, 1995

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore
County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in
Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 95-458-A (Item 452)

6916 Holabird Avenue

NWC Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue

12th Election District - 7th Councilmanic

Legal Owner(s): Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown

HEARING: TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 10 feet.

Arnold Jablon Director

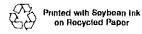
Department of Permits and Development Management

cc: Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown

NOTES; (1) ZONING SIGN & POST MUST BE RETURNED TO RM. 104, 111 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE ON THE HEARING DATE.

- (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.
- (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 887-3391.

MCROFILMEL





111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

July 11, 1995

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21219

RE: Item No.: 452

Case No.: 95-458-A

Petitioner: A. J. Brown, et ux

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brown:

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from Baltimore County approval agencies, has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition, which was accepted for processing by Permits and Development Management (PDM), Zoning Review, on June 12, 1995.

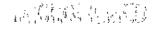
Any comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. Only those comments that are informative will be forwarded to you; those that are not informative will be placed in the permanent case file.

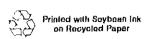
If you need further information or have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency or Joyce Watson in the zoning office (887-3391).

W. Carl Richards, Jr.

Zoning Supervisor

WCR/jw Attachment(s)







Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

Ms. Joyce Watson Zoning Administration and Development Management County Office Building Room 109 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

6-23-95

Baltimore County
Item No.: 452 (5LL)

Dear Ms. Watson:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not effected by any State Highway Administration project.

Re:

Please contact Bob Small at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

Bob Small

Ronald Burns, Chief Engineering Access Permits

Division

BS/



700 East Joppa Road Suite 901 Towson, MD 21286-5500

(410) 887-4500

DATE: 07/03/95

Arnold Jablon
Director
Zoning Administration and
Development Management
Baltimore County Office Building
Towson, MD 21204
MAIL STOP-1105

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

LOCATION: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF JUN. 26, 1995

Item No.: SEE BELOW Zoning Agenda:

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

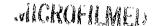
8. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time, IN REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS: 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 457, 458, 459, 460, 463 AND 464.



ZADM

REVIEWER: LT. ROBERT P. SAUERWALD

Fire Marshal Office, PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F





Printed on Recycled Paper

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

T0:

ZADM

DATE: 6/30/95

FROM:

DEPRM

Development Coordination

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Agenda: <u>6/24/95</u>

The Department of Environmental Protection & Resource Management has no comments for the following Zoning Advisory Committee Items:

Item #'s:

456

457

458

459

460

463

467

LS:sp

LETTY2/DEPRM/TXTSBP

A Company

PETITION PROBLEMS **AGENDA OF JUNE 26, 1995**

#451 --- MJK

1.

2.

No legal owner listed on petition form. No address or telephone number for protestants. Zoning listed on petition form does not agree with zoning on front of folder (D.R.-5.5 on petition form; D.R.-5.5, D.R.-10.5, D.R.-16, O-2 listed on 3. folder).

#452 --- JLL

1. Petitioner's copy of receipt is still in folder.

#454 --- RT

- No special hearing fee charged to amend the FDP. 1.
- 2. Need attorney.

#455 --- MJK

No telephone number for legal owner. 1.

#456 --- JRA

- No telephone number for legal owner. No councilmanic district on folder. 1.
- 2.

#457 --- MJK

No telephone number for legal owner. 1.

#459 --- MJK

1. Need title of persons signing for legal owner.

No telephone number or address for representative to be contacted. 2.



#461 --- JLL

- 1.
- No review information on bottom of petition forms. No practical difficulty or hardship listed on variance petition. 2.

#465 --- CAM

- 1.
- 2.
- No review information on bottom of petition form.

 No item number on petition form.

 No legal owner signature, typed name, address, or telephone number.

 No name or telephone number of representative to be contacted. 3.
- 4.

#466 --- MJK

No telephone number for legal owner. 1.

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE * BEFORE THE

6916 Holabird Avenue, NWC Holabird Ave.
and Crafton Avenue, 12th Election Dist. * ZONING COMMISSIONER

7th Councilmanic * OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown
Petitioners * CASE NO. 95-458-A

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the abovecaptioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO
Deputy People's Counsel
Room 47, Courthouse
400 Washington Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

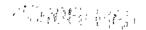
(410) 887-2188

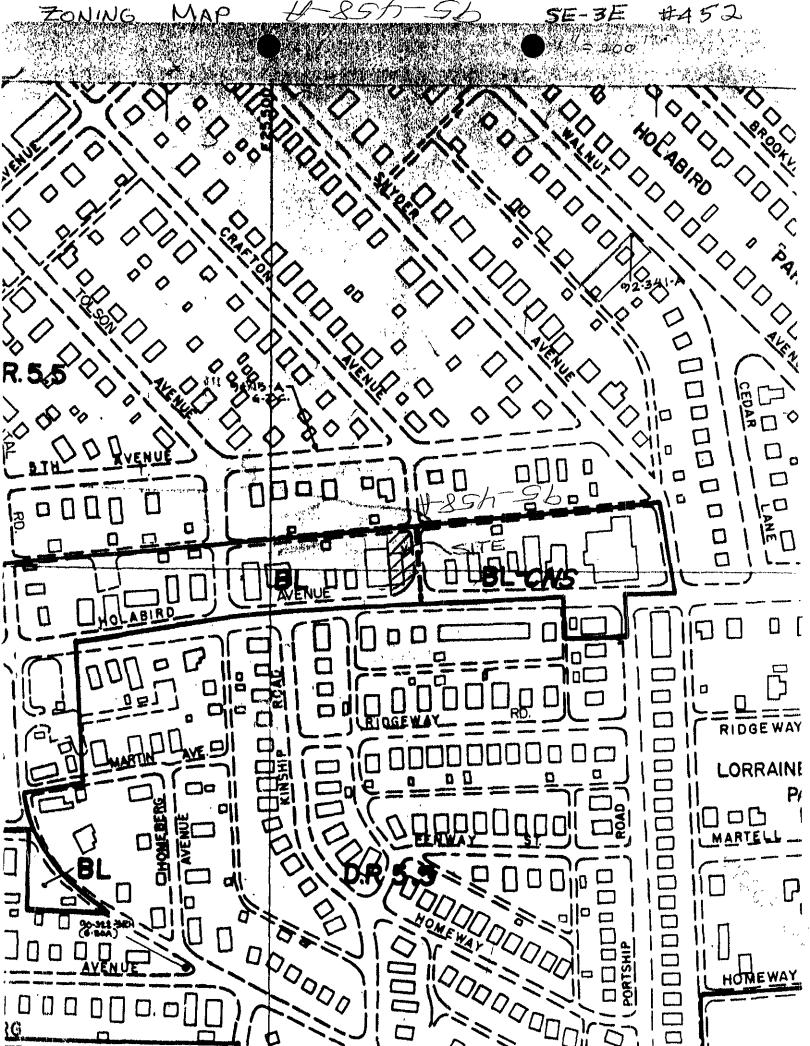
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3(5) day of July, 1995, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown, 2922 Ritchie Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21219, Petitioners.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

laxtemmenan





April 3, 1995

William Blankenship 6912 Holabird Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21222

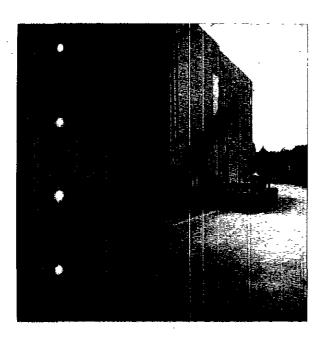
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

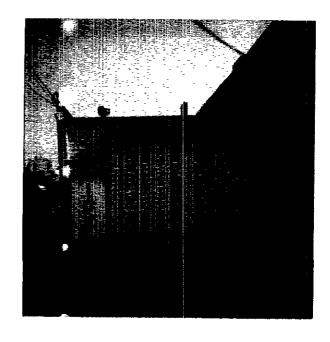
I WILLIAM BLANKENSHIP Owner of the commercial properties located at 6914 (only) Holabird Avenue authorize Andrew Brown owner of Modern Discount Liquors located at 6916 Holabird Avenue to use my off street parking for his customers.

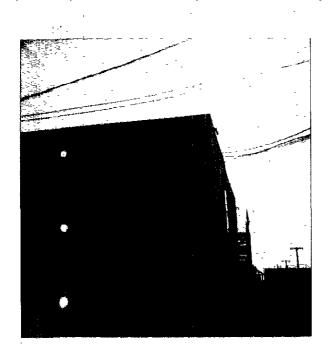
William Blankenship

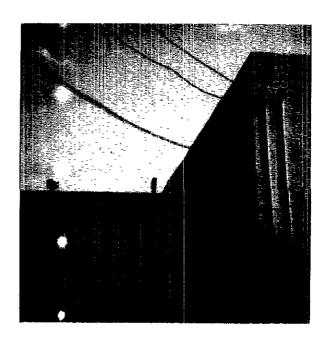
PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT 2

All Control of the

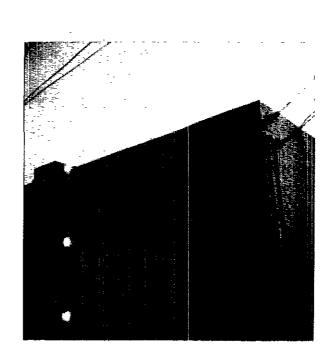


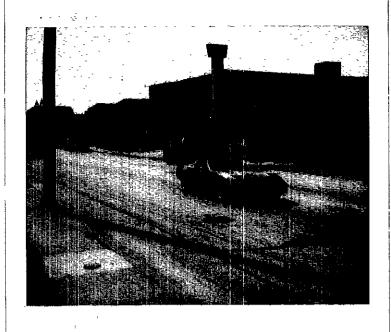




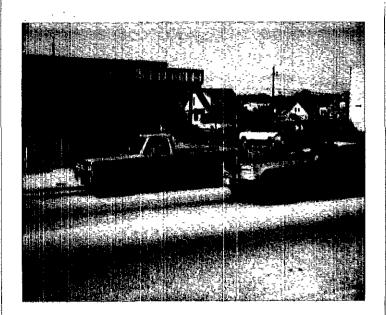




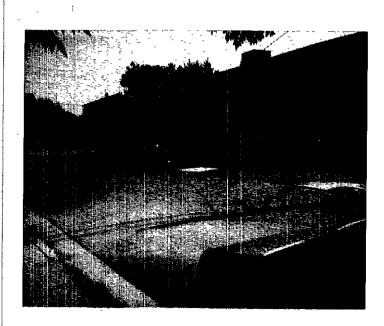














district, requires the imposition of a higher standard. That is, to allow the change of use for a particular property requires the Petitioner to demonstrate real hardship, where the land cannot allow a reasonable return if used only in accordance with the use restrictions of the ordinance.

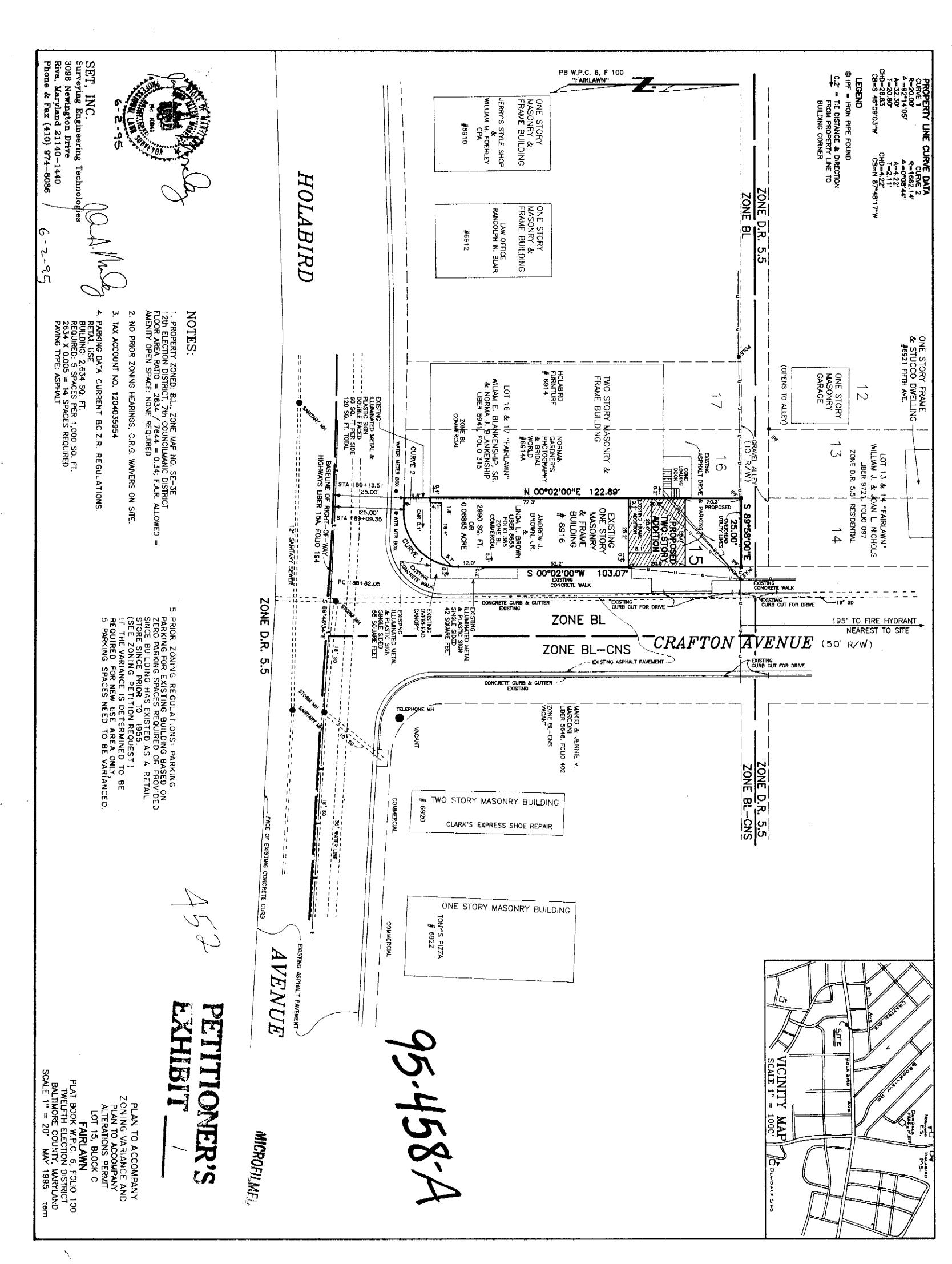
Compared with this heavy burden, the Court reviewed the practical

Compared with this heavy burden, the Court reviewed the practical difficulty standard applicable for area variances. The Court characterized area variances as having a much less drastic effect than use variances, in that they seek relief only from height, area, setback, or side property line restrictions and would not affect the property's use, per se. The Court envisioned the impact of area variances on the surrounding locale to be less than that generated by use variances, and thus, the lesser practical difficulty standard applies. The prongs of that standard which must be satisfied by the Petition, as enunciated in Anderson, supra, are as follows:

- 1) whether compliance with the strict letter of restrictions governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk or density would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether a grant of the variance applied for would do substantial justice to an applicant as well as to other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give sufficient relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with that afforded other property owners; and
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson, p. 39. See also McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973) at pps. 214-215.

I find from the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing before me that the Applicants have in fact proven the practical difficulty



This document was created with the trial version of Print2PDF
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* * * * * * * * * *

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance for that property known as 6916 Holabird Avenue, located in the vicinity of Wise Avenue in Dundalk. The Petition was filed by the owners of the property, Andrew J. and Linda L. Brown. The Petitioners seek relief from Section 409.6.B of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required five (5), or to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required 14, to be determined by the Zoning Commissioner at the hearing, and from Section 233.2.B of the B.C.Z.R. to permit a side yard setback of 0 feet in lieu of the minimum required 10 feet for a proposed two-story addition. The subject property and relief sought are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing on behalf of the Petition were Andrew and Linda Brown, property owners, James McKinney, Consultant, and Colleen Cavanaugh, Esquire, attorney for the Petitioners. There were no Protestants present.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property consists of 2,990 sq.ft., zoned B.L. and is improved with a one-story building in which the Petitioners have operated a liquor store since 1981 The Petitioners are desirous of constructing an addition to the existing building to provide badly needed storage space. Testimony indicated that

standards as set forth above and that the variance requested should be

granted. I further find that the granting of this variance is in strict

harmony with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R. and that the granting

of this relief is accomplished without injury to the public health, safety

lic hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the

Variance seeking relief from Section 409.6.B of the Baltimore County Zon-

ing Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the re-

quired five (5) for a proposed addition to the existing building, in accor-

dance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building

permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order;

however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that pro-

ceeding at this time is at their own risk until such

time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is

reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and pub-

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for

day of August, 1995 that the Petition for

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

market, the Petitioners are desirous of constructing a 25.2' x 20.6', two story addition to the rear of the existing building. Mr. Brown testified that a two-story addition is needed to handle the storage space necessary to stock the many different micro-brewery beers and other new brands of beer for his customers. The proposed addition will be constructed of similar materials as the existing building and will maintain the same side setbacks as provided by the existing building, which takes up the entire width of the subject property. Inasmuch as the proposed addition will be utilized for storage purposes only, I find that the Petitioners are only required to provide five (5) parking spaces, and not the 14 spaces that would be required otherwise. The Petitioners testified that there is ample parking in the area, both on Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue. Furthermore, the owner of the adjoining commercial property, William Blankenship, will allow the Petitioners to utilize his parking lot when necessary, as evidenced by his letter dated April 3, 1995. Thus, it appears that the relief requested would pose no hardship on the surrounding locale.

due to the number of new beer brands which have recently come onto the

The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 307.1, established a two-step process for the granting of variances. That two-step process was addressed and identified by the Court of Special Appeals in the case of Cromwell v. Ward, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995). The opinion in that case, issued January 4, 1995 and authored by the Honorable J. Cathell, interpreted our regulations to require the applicant to establish the following:

First, the Applicant (Petitioner) must prove, and this Deputy Zoning Commissioner must find, that the "property whereon structures are to be placed (or uses conducted) is -- in and of itself-- unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties such

that the uniqueness and peculiarity of the subject property causes the zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon that property."

I find from the testimony and evidence presented in this case that the subject property is unique, unusual and different from properties which surround the subject site so as to cause this applicable zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon this particular parcel of land.

Having satisfied this "first step" the Applicant (Petitioner) must proceed to the "second step" of this variance process, which is to show that strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship.

The practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship guidelines that have been imposed by the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) have been thoroughly examined and discussed by the appellate courts of this State. In Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association v. Buschman, 227 Md. 243, 176 A.2d 355 (1961), the Court of Appeals considered the identical regulation to Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R.

As the Court noted: "Section 307 of the Regulations uses the two terms (practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship) in the disjunctive." Loyola Federal, p. 358. Thus, by the use of the term "or", Section 307 offers the Petitioner an opportunity to obtain its variance upon satisfaction of either the undue hardship or practical difficulty standard.

The distinction between these standards was clarified by the Court of Special Appeals in Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28, 322 A.2d 220 (1974). Within that opinion. the Court held that the undue hardship standard applies to a petition for a use variance. The Court noted that a use variance, which permits a use on the property other than that specifically permitted in that particular

- 3-

district, requires the imposition of a higher standard. That is, to allow the change of use for a particular property requires the Petitioner to demonstrate real hardship, where the land cannot allow a reasonable return if used only in accordance with the use restrictions of the ordinance.

Compared with this heavy burden, the Court reviewed the practical difficulty standard applicable for area variances. The Court characterized area variances as having a much less drastic effect than use variances, in that they seek relief only from height, area, setback, or side property line restrictions and would not affect the property's use, per se. The Court envisioned the impact of area variances on the surrounding locale to be less than that generated by use variances, and thus, the lesser practical difficulty standard applies. The prongs of that standard which must be satisfied by the Petition, as enunciated in Anderson, supra, are as follows:

> 1) whether compliance with the strict letter of restrictions governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk or density would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome:

?) whether a grant of the variance applied for would do substantial justice to an applicant as well as to other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give sufficient relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with that afforded other property owners; and

3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson, p. 39. See also McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973) at pps.

I find from the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing before me that the Applicants have in fact proven the practical difficulty

- 4-

- 2-

Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning

Suite 112 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-4386

August 2, 1995

Colleen Cavanaugh, Esquire 2 N. Dundalk Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21222-4265

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE NW/Corner Holabird and Crafton Aves. (6916 Holabird Avenue) 13th Election District - 7th Councilmanic District Andrew J. Brown, et ux - Petitioners Case No. 95-458-A

Dear Ms. Cavanaugh:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Permits and Development Management office at 887-3391.

> Very truly yours, Muthy Rotroco TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

cc: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue, Baltimore, Md. 21219

People's Counsel

Attorney for inetitioner

EWe do solumnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of penuty, that time are free TODA_ 2922 Kitchie Ave. 477.832. BALTIMORE MARYLAND 21219

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 11/1/93

Petition for Variance to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at 6916 Holabird Ave. which is presently zoned B.L.

This Petition shall be filed with the Office of Zoning Administration & Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s) 409.6.B and 233.2.B to permit O parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit 0 parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces as determinded to be required by the Zoning Commissioner at the public hearing and a Oft. side setback (for proposed building. in lieu of the of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons (indicate hardship or required 10ft. practical difficulty)

Desperately need more storage space in order to stay competitive due to more brands available and customer demand for more variety ie: light products and non-alcoholic beers.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations. It or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filling of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore County

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TMK:bjs

or general welfare.

variance requested should be granted.

the following restriction:

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on Recycled Paper

ZONING DESCRIPTION

BEGINNING at a point on the north right-of-way line of Holabird Avenue as shown on Baltimore County Bureau of Rights-ofway plat HRW 52-099 as recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Highways Liber No. 15A at Folio 194, said Point of Beginning being 50 feet west of the centerline of Crafton Avenue, a 50 foot right of way; THENCE departing said north rightof-way line

1. North 00°02'00" East, 122.38 feet to the south line of an alley; THENCE along said south line

2. South 89°58'00" East, 25.00 feet to the west right-of-way line of Crafton Avenue; THENCE along said west right-of-way line 3. South 00°02'00" West, 103.07 feet to a point of curvature;

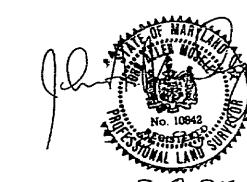
4. 32.30 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 20 feet and a chord bearing and distance of South 46°09'03"

north line of Holabird Avenue; THENCE along the said north line 5. 4.22 feet along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 1662.14 feet and a chord bearing and distance of North 87°48'17" West, 4.22 feet to the Point of Beginning and containing 2,990 square feet of land.

West, 28.83 feet to a point of reverse curvature on the said

Being a portion of Lot 15, Block C as shown on a Plat of Subdivision entitled "Fairlawn" as recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland in Plat Book W.P.C. 6 at Folio 100 said property also know as 6916 Holabird Avenue located in the Twelfth Election District.

Also Being all of the Property conveyed to Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda L. Brown by deed dated November 2, 1990 as recorded in Liber



8655, Folio 385.

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Posted for: Varionce	Date of Posting 7/1/95
Posted for: Naviones	
Petitioner: Androwat hinds	Brawn
Location of property: 6916 Holibird 1	Fro. NWB
Pornance on EE	7
Location of Signar Facing findusy to	on fro poly being 20 nd
Remarks:	
Posted by Marky	Date of return: 1/1/95
Signature	//
Number of Signs:	

NOTICE OF HEARING The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204 or Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows: Case: #95-458-A (Item 452) 6916 Holabird Avenue NWC Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue 12th Election District 7th Councilinanic Linda Lee Brown Hearing: Tuesday, July 18, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Rm. 118, Ok Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the re-quired 5 parking spaces or to lieu of the required 4 parkin spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 10 feet. LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County NOTES: (1)Hearings are Handi-capped Accessible; for special ac-commodations Please Call 887-3353. (2)For information concern ing the File and/or Hearing, Please Call 887-3391. 6/359 June 29. CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of ____ successive

> THE JEFFERSONIAN, a. Henrilesar LEGAL AD. - TOWSON

> > (410) 887-3353

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

M.A.

June 22, 1995

111 West Chesapeake Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

6916 Holabird Avenue NWC Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue 12th Election District - 7th Councilmanic Legal Owner(s): Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown HEARING: TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 10 feet.

CASE NUMBER: 95-458-A (Item 452)

cc: Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown

NOTES: (1) ZONING SIGN & POST MUST BE RETURNED TO RM. 104, 111 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE ON THE HEARING DATE. (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353. (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 887-3391.

Zoning Administration &

111 Vest Chesopeuke Avenue To: son, Maryland 21201

Development Management

NOW RES. Z. VAR. 020 \$250.00

-/ SIGN POSTAVE- 080 35.00
285.00

OWNER: BROWN 6916 HOLABIRD AVE

03A03#0058M1CHRC Please Make Checks Payable To: Baltimore County

Account: R-001-6150

fqieee1

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204



Baltimore County Government

Office of Zoning Administration

and Development Management

(4.10) 887-3353

July 11, 1995

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21219

> RE: Item No.: 452 Case No.: 95-458-A Petitioner: A. J. Brown, et ux

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brown:

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from Baltimore County approval agencies, has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition, which was accepted for processing by Permits and Development Management (PDM), Zoning Review, on June 12, 1995.

Any comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. Only those comments that are informative will be forwarded to you; those that are not informative will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency or Joyce Watson in the zoning office (887-3391).

> W. Cont Rehard W. Carl Richards, Jr.

Zoning Supervisor

WCR/jw Attachment(s)

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Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management



(410) 887-3353

ZONING HEARING ADVERTISING AND POSTING REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

Baltimore County zoning regulations require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property and placement of a notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County.

This office will ensure that the legal requirements for posting and advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements.

PAYMENT WILL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

For newspaper advertising:

111 West Chesapeake Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

- Posting fees will be accessed and paid to this office at the time of filing.
- Billing for legal advertising, due upon receipt, will come from and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

NON-PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING FEES WILL STAY ISSUANCE OF ZONING ORDER.

ARNOLD JABLON, DIRECTOR

Petitioner: Anorew J. Brown JR + Linda Lee Brown Location: 6916 HOLABIRD AVENUE BAND MO 21222 PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:

NAME: ANDREW J. BROWN JR ADDRESS: 2922 RITCHIE AVENUE

BALTMONE MARYLAND 21219 PHONE NUMBER: (410) 477-8328

AJ:ggs Printed with Soybean thk on Recycled Paper

TO: PUTUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY June 29, 1995 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please foward billing to:

Andrew J. Brown, Jr. 2922 Ritchie Avenue Baltimore, MD 21219 477-8328

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

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CASE NUMBER: 95-458-A (Item 452) 6916 Holabird Avenue NWC Holabird Avenue and Crafton Avenue 12th Election District - 7th Councilmanic Legal Owner(s): Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown HERRING: TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 118, Old Courthouse.

Variance to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 5 parking spaces or to permit zero parking spaces in lieu of the required 14 parking spaces and a zero foot side setback (for proposed building) in lieu of the required 10 feet.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT ZONING CONSILSSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353. (2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, PLEASE CALL 887-3391.

O. James Lighthizer. Administrator

Re: Baltimore County

Ms. Joyce Watson Zoning Administration and Development Management County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue

Room 109 Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Ms. Watson:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not effected by any State Highway Administration project.

Please contact Bob Small at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

Engineering Access Permits

LOCATION: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF JUN. 26, 1995

700 East Joppa Road Suite 901

Towson, MD 21286-5500

Arnold Jablon

Towson, MD 21204

Item No.: SEE BELOW

MAIL STOP-1105

Zoning Administration and

Baltimore County Office Building

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

Development Management

Director

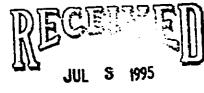
Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

Zoning Agenda:

Baltimore County Government

Fire Department

8. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time. IN REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS: 450, 451, 453, 454, 455, 457,458,459,460,463 AND 464.



(410) 887-4500

DATE: 07/03/95

ZADM

REVIEWER: LT. ROBERT P. SAUERWALD Fire Marshal Office, PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F

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A. Harris

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: 6/30/95

Development Coordination SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Committee
Agenda: <u>6/24/75</u>

The Department of Environmental Protection & Resource Management has no comments for the following Zoning Advisory Committee Items:

LETTY2/DEPRM/TXTS8P

#451 --- MJK

No legal owner listed on petition form.

No address or telephone number for protestants.

Zoning listed on petition form does not agree with zoning on front of folder (D.R.-5.5 on petition form; D.R.-5.5, D.R.-10.5, D.R.-16, O-2 listed on

PETITION PROBLEMS

AGENDA OF JUNE 26, 1995

#452 --- JLL

1. Petitioner's copy of receipt is still in folder.

#454 --- RT

No special hearing fee charged to amend the FDP.
 Need attorney.

#455 -- MJK

1. No telephone number for legal owner.

#456 --- JRA

Nc telephone number for legal owner.
 No councilmanic district on folder.

#457 - MJK

1. No telephone number for legal owner.

<u>#459 --- MJK</u>

Need title of persons signing for legal owner.
 No telephone number or address for representative to be contacted.

6916 Holabird Avenue, NWC Holabird Ave. and Crafton Avenue, 12th Election Dist. * 7th Councilmanic

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown Petitioners

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY CASE NO. 95-458-A

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the abovecaptioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

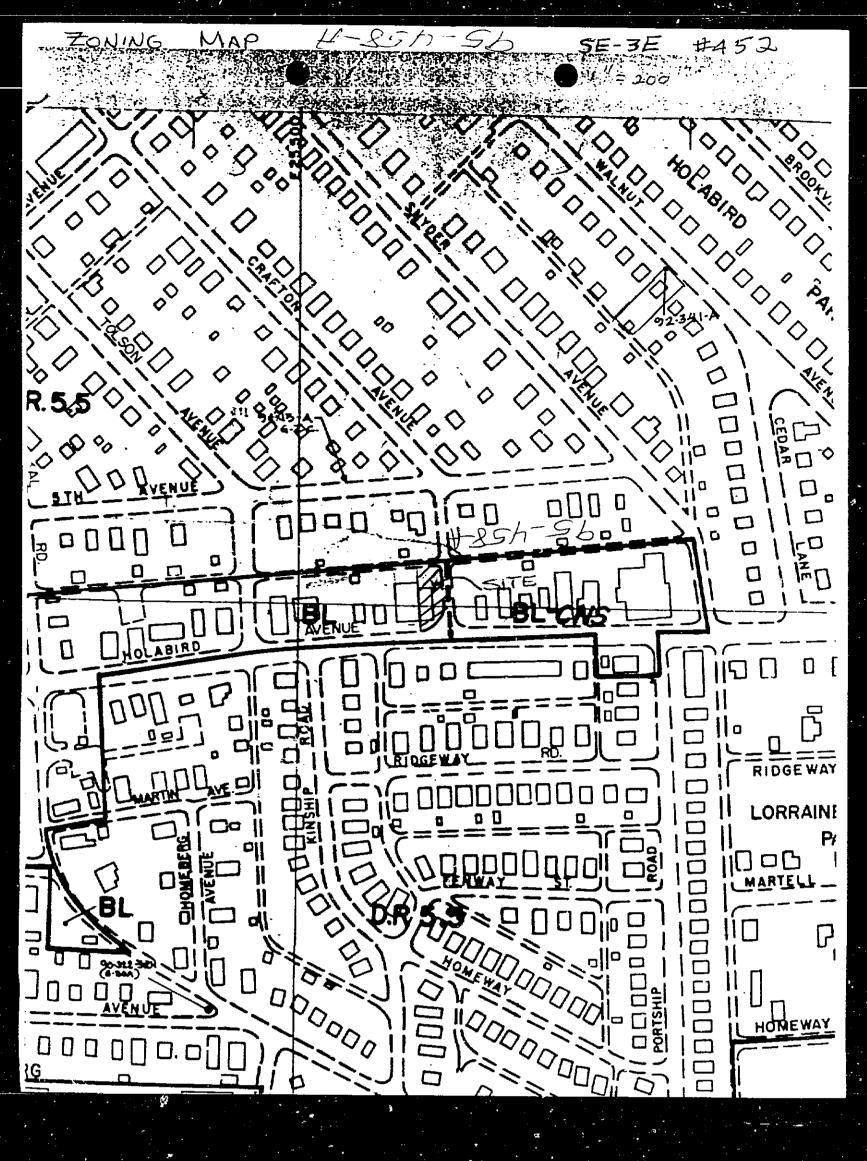
> Peter Max amneiman PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN
> People's Counsel for Baltimore County CAROLE S. DEMILIO Deputy People's Counsel Room 47, Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

(41C) 887-2188

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 365 day of July, 1995, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Andrew J. Brown, Jr. and Linda Lee Brown, 2922 Ritchie Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21219, Petitioners.

Peter Max Zimmeinan
PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN



April 3, 1995

William Blankenship 6912 Holabird Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21222

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I WILLIAM BLANKENSHIP Owner of the commercial properties located at 6914 (only) Holabird Avenue authorize Andrew Brown owner of Modern Discount Liquors located at 6916 Holabird Avenue to use my off street parking for his customers.

William Blankenship

PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT 2

